

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Office of Publication: 208 South Elm Street, Denton, Texas; Editorial and Executive Office: 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness, and Formalism

VOLUME X, No. 9

DENTON, TEXAS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1943

\$1.00 PER YEAR

## John's Counsel To Christians

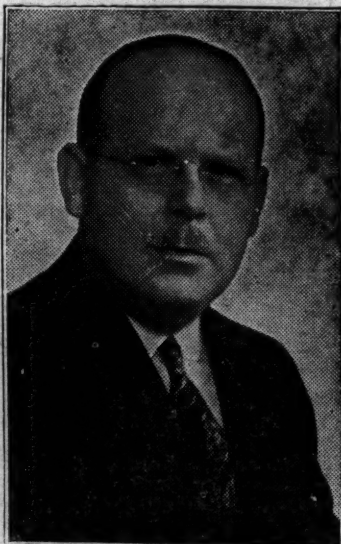
By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D.D.

On Faculty Moody Bible Institute; (A Sunday School Lesson Broadcast for June 27, 1943, on Radio Station W.M.B.I., Chicago).

### Scripture Lesson

"I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it. For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."—II John 4-11.

"Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well: Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellow-helpers to the truth. I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and



Dr. Harold L. Lundquist

forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church. Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God. Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true."—III John 5-12.

### Golden Text

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."—III John 2.

Christians need guidance, especially in their home and church relationship. The apostle John, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote the two personal letters known to us as II and III John. They abound in sound spiritual.

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## And Jesus Stood Still

By EVANGELIST CHARLES E. FULLER

(Preached on Old Fashioned Revival Hour Broadcast, August 15, 1943. Mechanically recorded for "The Sword of The Lord)."

"46 And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the high-way side begging.

"47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me.

"48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me.

"49 And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.

"50 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.

"51 And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.

"52 And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way."—Mark 10:46-52.

Will you underline those four words in the forty-ninth verse, please, "And Jesus stood still." Do you really get the force of these words? I want you to know something of the background for this study in the gospel of Mark. Mark's gospel pictures forth the Lord Jesus Christ as the Servant of Jehovah. And His service work, we find, is one of almost ceaseless activity. In reading through the gospel of Mark, note the frequent occurrences of the word, *and*. Why, just in the verses I have read, every verse begins with the word, *and*. There is continuous action, *and* he did this, *and* he did that, etc. It has a very significant meaning. Again the words, *immediately, straightway, forthwith*, on and on, occurring eighty-two times in the New Testament, are found some forty times in the gospel of Mark. Truly the Servant of Jeho-

vah was ever going about doing His Father's business. Surely the King's business requireth haste.

And now with this background of almost ceaseless activity we come to verse 49. Immediately our attention is centered on these words, "And Jesus stood still." Let's find out, first of all, what means this unusual pause in the Saviour's progress. In the few verses just previous to 49, the Lord has told His disciples about going up to Jerusalem, on His triumphal march where He would receive the loud Hosannas from the multitude. And He began this triumphal march from the city of Jericho. And He, Christ, with His disciples and a great multitude were leaving the city of Jericho, winding their way up the road to Jerusalem, when suddenly, Jesus stood still. The procession halted, curious to know why such a sudden halt on the way. Well, the Servant of Jehovah, whose ear is ever open to the cry of the humble and contrite and needy, heard a cry, a cry coming from the lips of a poor, blind, way-side beggar. Yes, the blind beggar of Jericho stopped Jehovah's Servant, the prophet of Nazareth. Blind Bartimaeus, the beggar, is his name.

### "Have Mercy On Me"

In verse 47 we find the words that were uttered by the blind beggar, "Son of David, have mercy on me." These words caught the Servant's ear and the sweet music of that one word, "Mercy," gripped the heart of the Lover of men's souls. "And Jesus stood still." Here is a blind, helpless beggar calling for mercy and causes the Creator, the Master of all Heaven and earth to stop and to stoop to the roll of a servant. Yes, Jesus stood still! It is recorded that Joshua

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of old commanded the sun to stand still and it obeyed, but here a blind beggar, Bartimaeus, cried for mercy and caused the Son of Righteous to stand still. He who created the sun and the earth and the heavens stands still deliberately for a poor needy soul, a soul needing mercy. Thank God, Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever. And today, as in the days of blind Bartimaeus, any soul in the need of mercy, if he would but voice that need, the Lord of glory would again stand still and meet that need. Oh, there are thousands, yes, millions of needy souls blinded by sin, wrecked by sin, by life's highways that need mercy. They need forgiveness and need to be pardoned and have eternal life. I would that

(Continued on page three)



Rev. Fuller

## We Want Names For Samples

Pastor Or Some Worker Should Announce 'The Sword' in Every Church

We want the names and addresses of thousands and thousands of pastors, Christian workers, Sunday School teachers, and Christians who would be interested in receiving sample copies, free, of 'Americas Foremost Evangelistic Weekly.' We continually get letters of grateful thanks that someone sent them samples of *The Sword of The Lord* so they could see the paper and subscribe for themselves. Will you send us a list of names, with full and accurate addresses, of people such as mentioned above, who would likely subscribe for the *Sword of The Lord* for themselves if they knew about it. You will do them a real favor. Each one will receive three sample copies of the paper free. To make it possible for thrilling evangelistic sermons by Evangelist Charles Fuller, Dr. H. A. Ironside, Dr. Robert G. Lee, Dr. Bob Jones, Dr. Oswald J. Smith, Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, fervent and powerful Southern evangelist, Evangelist Hyman Appelmann, converted Jewish lawyer stirring great cities and winning thousands, and by the editor, Evangelist John R. Rice, as well as reports of great revivals, Bible teaching and answers to Bible questions, and emphasis on clean Christian living and soul-winning and prayer, to come into the homes of others will be a great service to the cause of Christ. Will you help? Make your list of names, check addresses, and if possible, mail it today. We will then do our part in introducing these friends to this great, interdenominational, orthodox soul-winning weekly.

Some people can send lists of heads of families in your church. Pastors may feel free to send these names with the assurance that they will not be used to solicit

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## To So Many We Owe So Much

By VIOLA WALDEN, Office Manager

"In the morning sow thy seed; and in the evening withhold not thy hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good"—Ecclesiastes 11:6.

### 27 Reported Saved Through Sword Literature in August

Our columns are frequently used to convey our readers news of the blessings which come to us. We have not space for every expression — we wish we did. As you read the letters we quote, I believe you will feel as we do, that to those who are lost we owe a great debt. No doubt many of you who read this were won to Christ outside a church, by a tract because someone loved you enough to tell you of His love, and to point the way of salvation to you. If these people who sent out the booklets to these whose letters we are quoting, had not felt they owed a debt to their friends and God, then you would not be reading some of these letters; and worse still, some would still be in darkness. And

some are in darkness now because we have not done our part.

### Nobody Told Me of Jesus

Would you care if some friend you have met day by day, Should never be told about Jesus?

Are you willing that he, in the judgment should say:

"No one ever told me of Jesus?"

Care you not if some soul of the children of men

Should never be brought unto Jesus?

Or would say in that day when He cometh again,

"No one ever told me of Jesus?"

Would you care if your crown should be starlessly dim

Because you led no one to Jesus?

(Continued on page two)



JESUS HEALS BLIND BARTIMAEUS



## To So Many We Owe So Much

(Continued from page one)

Make it true that some heart shall not answer to Him;  
"No one ever told me of Jesus."

Then be silent no longer! But earnestly pray  
For grace to the telling of Jesus.

So that no one can say on that great judgment day,  
"No one ever told me of Jesus."

**Chorus:**  
Nobody told me of Jesus,  
Nobody told me of Jesus,  
So many, I have met, but they seemed to forget,  
To tell me the story of Jesus.  
—by Mrs. Frank A. Breck

Paul, the apostle, had a debt he felt he must pay. It compelled him to go night and day with tears, and from house to house.

Here are some illustrations of how people have been concerned over lost loved ones, have taken the Word, and as a result of their labors, many have been blessed and saved. We received word in August from 27 who were won to Christ, 17 from the booklet "What Must I Do to Be Saved," 2 from Heaven, one from Hell, one from the Sword and 6 others who did not say except that it was through *The Sword of the Lord* literature. The seed has been sown and the harvest is being reaped.

### 83 Year Old Man Saved

"...I would like for you to send *The Sword of the Lord* to a neighbor of mine who is 83 years old. He has read *The Sword of the Lord* and the book on *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* He has signed his confession in one of them which I prize very much..."

(Signed) Mrs. C. A. Sheler  
Roanoke, Virginia

### Man Overseas Writes for More Tracts: Sends Word of One Conversion

Mr. W. W. Thompson of the Section Base, care of Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California, sent a lovely offering, and wrote:

"I have read your tract, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* I enjoyed it very much. I have known at least one that was saved directly from reading that tract for which we thank God. I have had the privilege of distributing a few of them and they have brought some convictions. We are hoping and praying for more..."

We have sent 200 more of the tracts to him, and will send more as he needs them.

### City Hospital at St. Louis Receives Booklets

"Dear Brother Rice:  
"Not long ago I wrote and sent you a small contribution asking you to send me a few tracts, especially the one entitled *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*"

"I am privileged to conduct the morning service at the City Hospital of St. Louis. Many have been converted and others blessed by reading the tract. Many Catholics have been convinced and convicted by reading that tract in conjunction with our personal work and prayers and have accepted Jesus as their personal Saviour. So please send me more copies of that tract as I can use them very effectively."

(Signed) V. D. Gardner

We shipped Mr. Gardner 500 more and wrote him that we would send more as they were needed. We know the City Hospitals are needy fields for the gospel and we trust that Mr. Gardner and his workers will see many souls saved as a result of their labors in St. Louis.

### What Must I Do to Be Saved Booklet Found in Dead Man's Pocket

We have had a very interesting letter from Grand Saline, Texas. The writer asked for two of the booklets. She wanted one for a nephew in the army who had been hurt in a car wreck and was in the hospital, and then she said:

"The little book I read was found in a friend's pocket. He was killed at Amarillo Cotton Oil Mill. We think he may have been saved before he got killed. Sure hope so. I felt like the little book was a wonderful book for him to have had..."

(Signed) Mrs. Mamie Moody

### Prayer Group Using Booklets

Many of those who write asking for the booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* are pastors, evangelists and Sunday School workers. We received August 25th this happy word from Allen, Michigan:

"Dear Evangelist:

"Your little booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* is surely wonderful and I have passed many of them out to others."

"A lady and her daughter were saved through this booklet in our prayer group..."

(Signed) Mrs. Margaret Ambrose.  
Oh, of we only knew what blessings we could bring to others if we cared! Sometimes only a word will bring conviction; sometimes a tear, and in this case, as well as others, a giving of a tract turned the steps of a mother and daughter toward Heaven!

### What Must I Do to Be Saved Found in Street By Five Year Old: Brings Blessing to Husband and Wife

The following letter was sweet to us as well as encouragement.

"Dear Sir:

"We were with a people who were steeped in law with many 'do's and don'ts.' New light began to come to us, but being so saturated with false doctrine we hardly knew which way to turn, so we left our all in the Father's keeping to show us in His own way what He wanted us to know."

"Last week while up town my little five year old daughter found your little booklet of *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* on the street. We read every word and how we did rejoice. It was as a refreshing rain from Heaven."

"Now our difficulty is, the booklet was lost, and we cannot remember where to send for more. However, I have your name and address, so if possible will you send me the address. I have a son overseas, and am most anxious for him to have one; also two daughters and a brother who is very ill..."

(Signed) Mrs. E. B. Charlotte, Michigan

### Booklet Leads to Another Conversion: Tells Evangelist About It

Rev. John L. Bray, writes of a woman saved in Greenville, Mississippi. He says:

While I was in the hospital there, (Greenville, Mississippi) a Mrs. Stevens came to see me and was telling me how the first of the year she was in the hospital there, too—a worldly person without much thought of God. But while she was there, one of those booklets got into her hands, and after reading it, she decided that the reason she was in the hospital was that God could have a chance with her, and she was saved. She gave me a ringing testimony. I know you will rejoice with me as you learn about this conversion."

(Signed) John L.

### More Conversions from Michigan

"Dear Brother Rice:  
"Received tracts, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* All in good shape. The tract has led to the conversion of several people, one man an aged colored man..."

(Signed) Mrs. Bernard Shepard  
Bellevue, Michigan

### Man in Penitentiary Saved

Out of the depths of sin and despair, a sinner came to Christ and found in him what the world failed to give. And we thank the Lord in our hearts for saving this man in the penitentiary and for his letter, which we are quoting.

"Dear Sir:

"Today I wish to express my gratitude for God's many blessings to me. I'm under imprisonment and realize God is everywhere. I know my Redeemer liveth because He liveth deep down in my soul."

"I acknowledge my sins before Him... During my time, prayerfully reading your wise selection and outline, I became aware of God's unfailing mercy toward me in my sad plight."

"Dear sir, I'm under a reputable physician, receiving treatment for a terrible malady... I'm a motherless and fatherless boy, far away

from my home. I request the prayers of you and all the Christian family. I intend to be a better man morally, physically and spiritually. When being released from prison, I will live a quiet Christian life in my community."

"I've confessed my sins. I'm glad that Christ died for my sins. Here and now I receive Him into my heart. With all my heart I turn away from sin and turn to Christ. I trust Him to forgive my sins and take Him as my personal Saviour. I will claim Him openly and try to live for Him the rest of my life, by His help."

(Signed) M— C—  
Huntsville, Texas

What if nobody took the Word to these men in prison? Many times no services are held in prison—they cannot go out to church, and fellowship with Christian people. What if nobody felt responsible for them? That is what we mean when we say we are debtors.

### Soldier Writes: 'I Am So Happy Today Until I Don't Know Hardly What to Do'

From Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, a decision slip clipped from the booklet, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* was sent to us, signed by a Private in the army. At the same time he wrote the following happy letter:

"My dear Brother Rice:

"I have just got through reading your copies of *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* and I have decided to turn from my sins and to trust in the Lord Jesus, so today I am glad to confess Christ as my Saviour. I know that the Lord has forgiven my sins and I am so happy today until I don't know hardly what to do. There is joy bubbling over in my soul. And if it is possible, Brother Rice, please send me some other sample literature. I will gladly pass them on to some other soldiers after I read them."

(Signed) Pvt. A— M— Jr.  
Camp McCoy, Wis.

### Get What Must I Do to Be Saved To Men in Service

September 2nd we received a letter from Sgt. J. B. Adams of Atlanta, Georgia. He has used many of our booklets, and has reported several conversions. We are sending him 500 more today. In his letter he says, "We have already given out several thousand of the same kind to boys inducted here, who are being and have been shipped to all parts of the world, and if you have heard from some of the soldiers or sailors, most likely some of them were among the ones we gave tracts to of yours. At least 25 of the boys here have been converted right at the time we gave them those tracts. We usually read part of it to them and it always seems to have some kind of effect right there and then." We have others stationed at other ports of embarkation to whom we send booklets regularly. Thank God for these men who are witnessing to the boys; the tracts they are given may be read for the last time aboard a transport ship or airplane carrier, or down in the depths in a submarine, while lonely and shut out from other things. One chaplain wrote us several months ago, and asked that we pack as waterproof as possible, 5,000 *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*; he was going across and these were to go with him. Just think what 5,000 copies could do! We receive many letters from the boys in the armed forces with "care of Postmaster, New York" care of Postmaster, San Francisco, addresses, and some men overseas have written us of their conversion.

Now we cannot send tracts to individuals overseas unless those who want the tracts get permission from their commanding officer for them to be sent. So we feel the thing to do is to get the booklets into the hands of the boys while they are still in the states. Why don't you see that someone in training gets a copy or copies of some of *The Sword of the Lord* literature before they are sent to the battlefield? I might mean the salvation of that person, or his buddy.

### "I Got Saved Tonight!"

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"How are you? I just thought I

would write a few lines to let you know that booklet put me under conviction and I got saved tonight which is Tuesday, August 17, Well, thanks for it."

(Signed) Junior W—  
Shepherd, Michigan

### Minnesota Woman Sends Son's Confession of Christ to Us

August 16th there came to us the following letter which is self explanatory:

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"I ordered 50 of your books, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* They have been here on the end table, and I read one of them again and went to my son's room and asked him if he wouldn't read it. He told me he read one a night or two before and had asked for forgiveness for his sins. He told me he is saved. He said he wanted to send you the back of the book with his name, to tell you he is saved. And will you please pray for him and for us all?..."

(Signed) Mrs. M— E—  
Amiret, Minn.

The decision slip from page 23 of the booklet which the boy signed, reads:

"Realizing that I am a sinner and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know."

On the 22 pages preceding this slip are many Scriptures, making the plan of salvation very plain, with explanation and some illustrations. The following points are discussed:

What Must I Do?  
Christ Died to Save Sinners, Not Good Men  
Believe on The Lord Jesus Christ Not Saved by Good Works  
"Without Shedding of Blood Is No Remission"  
What About Repentance?  
Instant Salvation?  
Can One Be Saved Without Prayer?  
How to Get the Change of Heart  
How Should I Feel?  
What About Public Confession?  
Trusting Jesus, the Great Physician  
Jesus Is Our Lawyer  
A Wedding  
Make It Sure—Claim Him Today!

If you could use a few or many of the booklets, *What Must I Do to Be Saved?*, giving them out only to those who agree to read them, and wherever possible accompanying the gift with some earnest conversation, we should be glad to send as many as you need, trusting the Lord to supply our need.

### August Gifts For the Distribution Of Booklets

Wm. H. Watler, Mo.	\$4.50
Mrs. Sherman Hall, Kan.	1.00
Grace Jarrett, Miss.	1.00
Mrs. E. O. Abolt, Iowa	1.00
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Yoder, Kan.	1.00
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R. J. Helton, N. Car.	.86
L. Ray Laymon, Va.	5.00
E. K. Deuchle, Penn.	.50
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Mrs. H. A. Dorholt, Wis.	8.00
Mrs. Lola Kerr, Penn.	5.00
Wm. H. Walter, Mo.	4.50
F. M. Head, Iowa	8.05
Mrs. Edith Cook, Ohio	1.00
Hershel Birkes, Mo.	3.00
Mrs. Romaine Carson, Col.	3.00
Erwin Warber, Minn.	5.00
Mrs. J. A. Saunders, Ok.	1.00
Joshua Gifford, Kan.	.45
Mrs. J. Ed. Crawford, Tex.	2.00
Miss Loretta Haas, Wis.	2.30
M. Earl Hess, Penn.	2.00
A/C Richard E. Erickson, Calif.	3.00
Alma Anderson, Ill.	2.00
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## AND JESUS STOOD STILL

(Continued from page one)

each and every one of you would cry, "Son of David, have mercy on me." And Jehovah's Servant would again give full attention, giving grace and peace to every troubled heart and every hungry soul. Even though Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father ever ready to make intercession, He will stop all His blessed work to hear every need of the cry of the poorest of the poor if that cry is from the heart, for mercy. How blessed it is that His ear is ever open to the cry of the humble, the contrite and the needy.

Who and what was this which arrested the Servant of Jehovah? Who made Christ stand still? Herod, the cruel and wicked ruler with all of his power, who could cause his commanding army to go into Babylon and cause men to give their lives, couldn't have done it. Pilate, the man who tried to wash his hands of the blood of Jesus could not have done it, nor the Chief Priests, nor the Scribes, nor the Pharisees. But for the sweet comfort for thousands of the needy, it was the blind beggar, who caused the Servant, Jehovah's Servant, to stand still.

Now it is hard enough, heart-rending indeed to be a beggar, poor, needy, dependent on the arms of others, but to be a beggar and blind, that is doubly hard. Blind Bartimaeus was a man of the very lowest order of his day. He did not earn his own bread; in fact he could not. He sat publicly by the wayside holding out his hand for what alms might be dropped therein. Men go by, some giving a passing glance at the sight of a poor blind beggar, but He, the Christ of eternity, to whom we owe all hope of Heaven, stood still at the cry of such a blind prodigy.

Think of this. No one among you, I am sure, will dare to say, "I cannot be saved because I am so obscure, so poor, so homeless, so helpless." Oh, take courage. The moment a poor, needy soul cries out for mercy, the God in eternity will stand still again. Now man may look on the outward appearance, having clothes, land and possessions and physique, but Christ goes back of that and sees the man himself and sees his heart, his great needs, his wants, his sorrow and poverty. Well, beloved friend, appeal to God for mercy. He will stand still to listen to you. Yes, even to you He will give mercy.

What was the art by which Bartimaeus stayed the Lord? Well, it was the blind beggar's cry. The beggar did not sing of something small or send forth a melting tune. No, he only cried. Like the Psalmist of old, "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." I cried with my whole heart, I cried unto thee in my distress, I cried unto the Lord and he heard me and out of the depths have I cried unto thee, Oh Lord. The beggar cried a ringing cry, a heart rending cry, "Son of David, have mercy on me." And a voice from a heart burdened with misery, breaking with desire, wearied of long years of darkness, pining for light, and hopeful of attaining it, comes to the God of eternity. And Jesus stood still. Notice it was a cry for mercy, "Have mercy."

"Friend, will you take heed? If you try to ask for anything on the ground of merit, you will not be heard. The Servant of Jehovah will be as deaf as a stone if you think you are a good body, deserving favor. By your good works, Christ will pass you by. For He has not come to call those righteous, but sinners to repentance. Now the prayer for mercy,—oh, that makes all the difference in the world!

### THE SWORD OF THE LORD

Entered as second-class matter, Dec. 26, 1941, at the post office at Denton, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1897.

EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Published weekly at 208 South Elm Street, Denton, Texas. Editorial and Executive Office: 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Subscription Price: \$1.00 a year, 3 years, \$2.00.

Canada and Foreign Countries: \$1.50 a year.

Take the life of David, that man whom God honored, the king over Israel. He committed a great sin and for over a year was in the depths of despair. What did he do when he came back and asked God to forgive him? Did he come back and say, "Now, Lord listen here, I am king over Israel, I have these armies at my command, I have great riches in the treasury, I'm king"? No, he didn't! What did he do? You will read it there in the fifty-first Psalm and thirty-third Psalm. You will find these words: "Have mercy upon me O God, for this sin that I have committed. I have sinned against you." And the broken and contrite heart God will not despise. If you plead for mercy because you are deeply conscious that nothing but the pure, simple grace of God can save you, then God will hear you. Friend of mine, appeal on the ground of free grace.

"Nothing in my hand I bring  
Simply to thy cross I cling."

And Jesus will stand still and listen to you. Yes, He will. "And Jesus stood still."

"Oh Jesus Thou Son of David"

Another point about this cry for mercy we must take in view. Notice, it was in the name of "Jesus Thou Son of David." He used Jesus name as the basis and the foundation of that plea. And I want to say for all believers, for the weak or great, there is nothing on earth or in Heaven more powerful than the name of Jesus. For God says, "Whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you" (John 15:16). "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13, 14). "And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you" (John 16:23). I want to tell you that the most powerful force in all the world is not battleships, cruisers, tanks armies and guns, but the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the most potent power in all the world, in Heaven and in earth; praying in Christ's name, pleading in His stead for what He has done on the basis of His character and His power and His promises.

1. On the basis of His character, what? Pure, spotless, sinless. The One who died in our place and stead, the godly for the ungodly.

2. And then on the basis of His power read the miracles of the Gospel of John, changing water to wine, healing the nobleman's son, healing the impotent man, feeding the five thousand. On the basis of that power ask God and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

3. And then on the basis of His rich promises, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Take God at His word. When you come on the basis of unmerited favor, on the basis of pure, simple grace, ask God for forgiveness, to know the joy of peace and pardon and fellowship and all that He has for you in Christ Jesus. He says, "I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee."

What Claim Had Bartimaeus On Christ?

Now, in closing, what was so special about this blind man and his prayers? Well, the answer lies on the surface. Here it is.

First of all, he was full of need. He had two loads to carry. He was blind and poor. I might say in passing that two times the word *mercy* appears right here, and the only two occurrences in the book of Mark. He had a double need, poor and blinded, and twice he cries out for mercy. Oh, yes, God can meet every need! Here is a man without the bread of life and therefore he cries all the more. Do you have a double need, are you doubly guilty, are you doubly helpless? Well, cry for mercy. God will hear!

Next this man had strong desires. When he sought for sight he meant it; he was sincere, he

was eager. Notice Christ's question is verse 51, "What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?" How natural. He needed sight, he asked for it! You need salvation: ask for it! You desire forgiveness: ask for it! You need relief from that awful load of condemnation: ask for it! You need pardon: ask for it! You need to know the joy of fellowship: ask for it! Ask God for all your needs, your desires; have your spiritual eyes enlightened so that you will know what is the hope of the calling and the joys of His inheritance.

Another thing, notice his earnest plea. Why, the disciples tried to quiet him. Verse 48, "And many charged him that he should his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me." This man meant business. God said, "Seek me with your whole heart and ye shall find me. And Jesus said unto him, 'Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.'" Several years ago I was a blind beggar spiritually. I could not see eternal things, I could not see my soul's need before God, that I was lost, without hope and without Christ. But a great need came up through the preaching of the Word and I did see my condition before God. One Sunday afternoon I cried out and God heard me, and saved me. Whereas I was once blind and could not see eternal things, for the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit, now I could see. No one opened my spiritual eyes but Jesus. He is the only one in Heaven or earth who can open your eyes, friend of mine. cry to him, "Have mercy on me."

Let us bow our heads in prayer. I am closing just a little bit early to go into an old fashioned altar service, the kind we used to have back in the old days when men of God poured out their hearts in seeking men and women to be reconciled to God. Thank God we have many today over the country. But it seems like there were more then. How we do pray for every faithful pastor who is telling men of the cross of Christ and the shed blood, men in a lost sinful condition and in need of mercy. Oh, Father, we bring this broadcast to a close in a few minutes. We thank thee for blind Bartimaeus sitting there in rags by the highway in such a helpless and hopeless condition. Poor, blind Bartimaeus when he heard that Jesus was coming by the way, ("Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God"), said, "Oh, I need you, Jesus. I have a need in my heart. Son of David; have mercy on me."

Friend of mine, under *sins* condemnation without hope, without Christ, and without God, will you just forget everything else and look up into the Father's face today, and say, "Lord, have mercy on me. God be merciful to me, a sinner, and save me for Christ's sake." Will you come just as you are, poor and needy? He knows all about you. Forget those around about you and deal with God personally. Now look up into His face and say, "Oh, God, save me for Christ's sake. Have mercy." God did have mercy. He sent His Son 1900 years ago to die in your place.

"Just As I am Without One Plea," the chorus will sing. As we bring the Old Fashioned Revival Hour to a close are there any in the studio who will put up their hand and say, "Pray for me. Right here and now I want to accept Christ, as my personal Saviour." Would you put your hand up? Any place here in the studio and say, "Father have mercy on me. Oh, God, save me." I wonder if there are any here in the audience who will say by the uplifted hand, "Brother Fuller, pray for me." Will you put it up right now? Oh, may God help you as we are giving the call right here in the studio and giving the call out over radioland asking men and women everywhere. For he says, "To as many as receive him," that is, Christ, "To as many as receive him, God giveth the right or power to become the sons of God, even to those who believe on His name." And, "He that heareth my words and believeth on Him that sent me hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death into life." As

we bring the Old Fashioned Revival Hour to a close, I am going to ask once again if there are any here who will put their hand up and say, "Pray for me. Here and now I want to accept Christ." I have never done this before on the Old Fashioned Revival Hour, but I feel led to do it right here tonight. I just beseech you to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. How about it? God bless you lady. Anyone else? Put your hand up and say, "Pray for me." How about it men in the service? Are you saved? Come on if you haven't been saved. God bless you dear lady. Anyone else? God bless you my dear man. God bless you down here. A regular old revival is breaking out here in the studio in Hollywood. You pray for us, people in radioland, that God will speak to many more souls. Will anyone else say, "Pray for me." Do you want to here and now accept Christ as your personal Saviour?

Let's pray together as we go off the air. Our Father we thank thee for speaking to these hearts. Oh, God, have mercy on these individuals, these men and women who are looking up into Thy face praying the penitent sinners prayer, the only prayer that thou wilt hear. And we pray that there will be literally thousands, Yes, hundreds of thousands of men over the land and seas, out in the ships who will right now say, "Oh, God, have mercy on me, and save me for Christ's sake." For we ask it in His name. And now chorus will you go off the air singing, "Just As I Am."

Rev. Charles E. Fuller may be addressed P. O. Box 123 Los Angeles, if you wish to write him that you accept Christ today, or if you wish to send an offering for his great radio work.

However, if you will take Christ as your Saviour, once and for all, as Bartimaeus did, please tell us so. If you will write the editor, we will see that Brother Fuller hears of your decision and he will rejoice as we will. If you recognize that you are a poor lost sinner and will today surrender to Christ and trust Him to save you, will you sign this decision now, then copy it or write in your own words to tell me you have come to Christ and have been saved today?

Dr. John R. Rice, Editor,

*The Sword of The Lord*

145 N. Hale St., Wheaton, Ill.

Dead Brother Rice;

Today, after reading Brother Charles E. Fuller's Sermon in *The Sword* entitled "And Jesus Stood Still," I have realized that I was a poor lost sinner, and, like blind Bartimaeus, I have asked Jesus to have mercy on me and save me. I give Him my heart today, I accept Him as my own personal Saviour, and believe that he has now forgiven and saved me. I will confess Him as my Saviour and will seek to live for Him the remainder of my life, by His help.

Signed.....

Address.....

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## JOHN'S COUNSEL TO CHRISTIANS

(Continued from page one)

practical advice. Note that these two words, spiritual and practical, belong together, for what is truly spiritual cannot help but be tremendously practical and in fact perfect for the direction of thought and life.

II John is addressed to an "elect lady" of the church, one beloved of all for her faithfulness to the truth (II John 1 and 2). III John is addressed to Gaius (a common name in those days), also well beloved in the truth (III John 1). Note the remarkable prayer in III John 2. "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." Would we dare to pray it, or would we want to reverse it?

The prayer there is that Gaius might prosper physically as he had spiritually. I wonder what would happen to some of us if our physical condition were so much poorer than our spiritual condition that our friends would pray such a prayer, as was true of this godly man. I am sure that if that were the case some of us would be very, very sick. Some would be crippled; some would be walking on crutches; and some, I fear, would be dead, for their spiritual profession has no reality. One can be very much alive physically and still be "dead." That is our Lord's own teaching. It is a very thought-provoking prayer that John offers for Gaius. Let it apply itself to your own spiritual experience. But now, to our lesson.

In these letters of John (II and III) five admirable lessons are taught. Let us give heed to them. They are appropriate to our day. We learn to

### I. Set An Example Before Your Children

"I rejoice greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another." And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it."—II John 4-6.

We may not like to admit it, but our children are largely what we make them by their training—or the lack of it—in the home. Let's say that again. We may not like to admit it, but our children are largely what we make them by their training—or the lack of it—in the home.

No less an agency than the F. B. I.—that is the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington—has recently declared itself to be deeply concerned about "the deplorable lack of parental guidance and discipline in many homes." The background of this statement is the announcement of the F. B. I. that the arrest of girls under twenty-one for drunkenness and disorderly conduct increased 65.7 per cent in 1942 over the 1941 figure. Note, that is a 65 per cent increase. Boys eighteen years of age were arrested more frequently than those of any other age group. Commercialized immorality among girls of minor age—that is, under eighteen—increased 64.8 per cent in 1942, over the figure for 1941. If my own observation in our own city and around the country indicates anything, it means that the figures in 1943 will show an appalling increase even over those of 1942. The blame rests solidly back on the parents. Oh, yes, conditions are conducive to laxness. There is a war on, etc. etc., but it is still true that the parents rear the kind of children they want to rear. There may be exceptions, an incorrigible here and there, but they are far fewer than we suppose, and usually they become that way because the parents have failed in their responsibility, failed to set the right kind of example.

Parents have the grave and at the same time precious responsibility of being what they want their children to be. We set the mold of their thinking and acting, not only about material things, but mentally and spiritually, which is far more important.

And we do it from their very infancy. What they learn in the first months and years of their lives bears fruit when they reach ten, twelve, eighteen, etc.

Above all we must teach them by precept and example, to love God supremely, and to walk after His commandments. Words are good but it is our actions that they will imitate.

It is surprising how important our example is to our children, and how often we do things to which we do not give a second thought, but which have a definite influence in molding the character of children. Some of you may recall the story of the farmer sitting before the kitchen stove (out in the Western prairies), on a cold winter day. He was chewing tobacco, and all at once he had to get rid of some of the stuff he had in his mouth. He opened the stove door and spat in the fire. A little later, he saw his little boy, who was playing around the room, go up to the stove, carefully open the door and spit into the fire. The father knew then that if he didn't want his boy to chew tobacco, he had to quit it; and he did.

I heard my pastor tell of a man who had a high place in the community where he used to preach years ago. If I recall correctly, he was one of the city officials. He was a member of the church, but was not living a real Christian life. One Sunday morning, just before the pastor was leaving for church, this man came to his house and asked to be prayed with. He was pale and fearful looking. He said something like this, "Pastor, for years I have been professing to follow Christ, and have done just the opposite. On Sunday mornings I have spent my time with a group of friends in the back room of a saloon, gambling. I used to slip down there by way of the alleys, so that no one would see me. This morning a light snow had fallen, and as I went down the alley toward the gambling house, I happened to look back, and I saw my boy coming along behind me taking great strides, stepping in his father's footprints. It frightened the life out of me, and instead of going to the gambling house, I have come here to ask you to pray with me."

Well, what kind of an example are we setting for our children? Mark you, I am not asking "What do we profess to be?" I am not asking whether our names are on the church book; I am not asking whether we piously refer to ourselves as Christians; I am asking "What do our lives say to our children?" It is a tremendously solemn question. What is your answer? What is my answer?

Father, mother, have you done your duty? Are your children "walking in truth" (v. 4) because you have led them that way?

### II. Be On Guard Against False Teachers

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."—II John 7-11.

Here is an important lesson for today. Note that we are not to countenance false teaching even by entertaining such teachers, or having close fellowship with them. To create the impression before the world and the Church that they are "not so bad," by appearing in public or private as their friends, is to partake of their evil works according to verse eleven. This is a serious matter, and one which presents a problem in the Church today. How close it work out today?

May I suggest that one of the ways in which we may thus fail the Lord is to support the work of training schools and seminaries

which have turned from the faith and which now have liberal or modernistic teachers. By putting such organizations on our church budgets, by announcing their activities in our church calendars, we tell the world that our church approves of them. There can be no other interpretation. This is serious business, not to be dismissed simply on the plea of denominational loyalty, or on some ground of Christian consideration or courtesy. Too much that is really vital is at stake. Courtesy to man is fine, but it must take second place to loyalty to God.

Such teachers may easily be recognized. They are aptly described by Dr. Earl L. Douglass: "In all ages the Church has been plagued by those who want to substitute something for pure Christian faith, or to embroider it with bright ideas of their own conceiving. Such people may try to strip religion of its supernatural aspect and reduce it to a merely rationalistic system. They may seek to stily loosen the moral standards of the Church because their own lives are deficient when measured by such standards. They may try to minimize the teaching of the cross because it stands for sacrifice." What then are we to do about it? Watch against them, and stand against their destructive teaching.

A word of warning is in order at this point. I think it's a mistake for us to simply pull out, and turn over the church property, endowments, and other things to the liberals, without an effort to keep them for the purpose for which they were intended. As a matter of fact, that's just what they want us to do. We ought to fight it out in a spiritual, but definite, way. This will be done, both by the negative approach, namely, the condemnation of that which is wrong, and the demand that it be eliminated, and also by positive action. But that is our next point.

### III. Be Diligent in Putting Forward True Teachers

"Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well: Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellow-helpers to the truth."—III John 5-8.

The door which should be closed against false teachers should be opened wide to those who are faithful teachers of the truth. They are an antidote to the others and by befriending them we declare before the world our stand for the truth. The Scripture before us refers primarily to the hospitality of the home, and thus reminds us of a grace which has been all but forgotten in these days of small apartments. But it has a broader application.

Whether we are able to open our homes to God's servants or not, we can show a Christian spirit of genuine hospitality in helping to bring them forward (v. 6) in their work. This may be done by gifts of money, by kindness shown in time of need, by a real interest in their work, by recommending them to others who wish to hear the truth.

Another way in which we can help to put forward those who are true to Christ is by opening our church doors to them. We should invite such teachers and leaders to speak in our pulpits, in our Sunday Schools, in the societies of our church. We should advertise them in the community, letting the whole world know that we stand with them in their faithful testimony to the Word of God, and in the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We can recommend them to others. How much this means, only the Lord knows, but, on the testimony of those who are engaged in Christian service, we can make the statement that such public commendation of their ministry is tremendously valuable in opening new doors for the presentation of the truth. Let us do it for the glory of God.

Perchance a word of caution is needed here. Not every preacher who declares himself to be a "fundamentalist" is worthy of our support. Sad to say there is a good bit of what looks too much like "religious racketeering" going on under the guise of orthodox teach-

ing. Prove the men. Learn of their real standing. Then if they are right (both in life and message) put them forward.

Do everything possible, then, to hinder the false teacher, and be just as diligent to put forward the ministry of the true man of God. Now we have another helpful suggestion.

### IV. Do Not Trust Proud Self-Seeking Leadership

"I wrote unto the Church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church. Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God."—III John 9-11.

We here come to a slightly different approach to this whole matter, and a very important one. We have been talking about false teachers and true teachers, and our attitude toward them. Now we turn to a group which is sometimes neglected in our thinking, but which needs attention, namely that group which would be classified as true in teaching, but which has slipped away from God's standards in living and especially in their attitude toward spiritual things.

A man may be orthodox, and intensely loyal to the denomination, and at the same time be a wicked man whose example is to be shunned. No word is said against the teaching of Diotrephes. He was not condemned for being careless about the affairs of the church, nor rebuked for being unfaithful in his attendance and devotion to its interests as he saw them. He was probably a "model" church member, a "pillar" in the church, and all that sort of thing.

What then was his sin? The sin of Diotrephes was pride, a desire to be the boss of the church, "No. 1 man" in its affairs. Lacking the true spirituality which always results in humility, he opposed the apostle John. Not only did he refuse to receive him, but used pressure on others who were willing to be hospitable and to help him with his work.

The bosses in the church operate the same way today, except that they usually work a bit under cover. Through official circles, and in indirect ways, they put the "squeeze" on any individual who preaches the True Gospel and who is bold enough to apply it to life and thus to make the church leader uncomfortable about his personal spiritual experience, or in any way to challenge his right to dominate the affairs of the church. Those of you who know anything of the operation of church affairs know how serious an offence that really is in the eyes of those who wish to be ruling members. Oh, of course they would not put it in just that way; that is altogether too crude. But down in their hearts they know that is the reason for their opposition. John has well admonished us to be on our guard against such men and women—for I am sorry to say that women often take the same place. Be on guard, but don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord is against them.

### V. Emulate the Life of the Man Of Good Report

"Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true."—III John 12.

Now we see our fifth lesson. A good man! No words of praise could possibly surpass such a testimony. The world is full of brilliant, skilled, wealthy and prominent people, but there is an appalling dearth of good men and women.

Please let that word "good" stand alone, without any qualifying expression. Remember that we weaken such words by qualifying adjectives. Just to say that a man is a good man, or that a woman is a good woman, is to pay them the highest kind of a compliment and to set forth before the world a testimony which cannot be gainsaid.

It is an interesting exercise to

## We Want Names For Samples

(Continued from page one)

funds, nor turned over to others who might use them for selfish purpose. They will be sacredly kept for this single purpose of getting them acquainted with The Sword of The Lord. Some will send lists of Sunday School teachers, of deacons or elders. Send names of your own relatives and friends, then tell them to be sure and read the samples sent, and to subscribe for themselves. Those who are interested in Bible study or in Soul-winning or revivals will surely want this paper if they get acquainted with it. Will you help us?

We suggest that pastors announce about *The Sword* from the pulpit, and that the pastor or others send for a bundle of samples to distribute to interested persons at the close of services, or in Sunday School or prayer meeting. We help so many pastors that we believe many of them will want to help us get out the great true-to-the-Bible, revival-fire message we publish each week. Pastor, will you commend this paper to your people?

If influential pastors will write us a nice word of commendation of *The Sword* we will print what we have room for in the paper, that others may know what you ministers think of it.

Send your list of names today, dear reader, names of those who are not now subscribers, but who would be interested in such a widely used Christian weekly. Send names to THE SWORD OF THE LORD PUBLISHERS, 145 N. Hale St., Wheaton, Ill.

try to limit the use of adjectives, or descriptive phrases. Someone may say, Well, you are using them, just in telling us about it." Quite true. We are so accustomed to them that we use them almost involuntarily. Sometimes, of course, they have a proper place; but a little experimentation will show you how much stronger is a well-chosen word, standing by itself than coupled with some other word which seeks to make it stand out, but really detracts from its beauty and power.

How refreshing to meet, and how delightful to know, such a man—such a woman. Like Demetrius, they have not only the witness of the Church, and of the truth itself, but also of "all men." But last week did we not say that the world hates real Christians? It does, but it also respects them, and is forced to bear witness to their reality and goodness. In other words they may call you a religious fanatic but they will know you are upright, decent, honest and clean. We must bear such a testimony.

Professed fellowship with God in Christ which does not result in goodness of life may well be scrutinized.

At this point, we need to look back at verse 11, which makes it clear that the one who knows God will do good—or rather, the reverse of that truth is presented there, namely, that the one who does good is one who knows God. Those who do evil are of the Evil One, and do not know God. Perhaps we have too often stressed this fact, but let us do it once more, namely, that to be good means to do good. God is good, and that means that He not only is good, but He does good. The same must be true of the Christian. Someone has put it in this way: "I read in a book where a Man called Christ went about doing good. It is very disconcerting to me that I am so easily satisfied with just going about." Does that describe your life? If it does, ask God to give you grace to show forth the goodness which He has given you in Christ.

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